

The last generation has some advantages and changes for the worse in the quality of our cattle. The big demand is for stocker cattle—calves, yearlings, and two year olds, to be fed out for beef in corn raising counties. A lot of milk stock has been brought in. Every housewife demands one or more Jerseys, Ayrshires or Guernseys at the milk par for home supply and weekly shipments of cans of cream. Dealers have come to supply town people with their daily milk. In most every bunch of cattle can be seen the iron tips which denote milk stock. The hired man goes about the milking as a matter of course. Men have grown to maturity who never heard the homestead day song of the old shepherds, and taste of which went some thing like this:

They can't set me down to no thrash  
Jegg'd stool.

With a painted milk bucket at knee,  
What do they think I'm that kind  
of a fool?

They can't make a milker of me!

By the way a painted bucket was a wooden bucket made, once, bought at the store. The term painted was applied to differentiate between the heavier, more lutherly bucket made by some handy men in the community. I have not heard the term in years, now I come to think about it.

I see now I have once again started to write something hard to step in allocated space. To make as near a heading as possible, let me say that our town has survived and prospered during the late depression on the million dollar annual income of Ponchaos as county farmers, mostly derived from livestock. Each and every one of us has a stake in the expansion of livestock industry, through better breeding and better care of cattle and sheep on these everlasting hills. Much can be learned from the experience of the old time stockman, who came up from disaster by producing a better steer when the cheap beef from wild cattle from the western plains flooded the market. What grandpa did to save his business, we can do to improve ours. Dr. Wilson, up at the University Farm, says the solution of our live stock problems lies in the breed, care and feed. These three, but the greatest of these is feed.

So we say to all those who follow the track of a steer it looks like good horns are coming back to the cattle business, and that right soon. In fact the bull I had in mind when I started to write was the one that Cousin Sam Beard topped the Baiti moose market with a couple of ear loads of three year old steers, 1300 pounds and better, to net him around \$500 hundred weight.

# - Pocahontas

## Chapter 4

Somewhat under duress hurried at such variable heads of authority as Mrs. West, who is the wife, poor dear, and Doctor Jim, I made the journey alone and all to the good. New Year's resolution to quit so much of my running around.

To begin with, I had made a ham for a couple of days on a dear bunk. A cold fat foot broke down under pressure and an infection resulted. The blood stream got to acting up, great and they put me to bed for a pair of three days with my foot in a sling. This was different from the metaphorical slings I am always put through for it. The orders were strict and plain, from here on I was to eat my age. Being on the sidelines, I readily assented and expected to comply.

My word being out before witnesses, it was with one big snub of self-righteous pride which precedes the fall. I distended with regret and hid public appearance to break a few random remarks. Ordinarily, I would have liked a better leg than my own one to have accepted such a condition.

One less Sunday afternoon, I was jammed up in the chimney corner, withdrawn before the fire, a word doing in my mind if duty was not calling for the sacrifice of a pleasant walk in the woods, for to check up on the birds, insects and varmints, for a long range view on the new storm the crackle of the fire would be breaking.

I hurry to say I am for the daily wearing forehead; their twenty-four hour professions are to be degraded upon the short period attempted to be covered. However I wait long enough to escape myself, to consult the calendar in the fall as to general prospects for a hard or soft winter, then to read a weekly for the last half of the period ahead.

As I preferred to make believe to them we still lived in the corner of having been a powerful man in my day, it is perhaps justified to break about as much as dish water and is on the way of the hour. It was interesting as preparation for the New York, "We the People" were on some town pageant. Nothing to know why the town would not train out for the big town, the town's spirit on the proper radio broadcast which advertised Santa Coffee. It seemed a typical country editor was wanted, and would be their representative?

In the words of the town in a catch my ghost, advertise, show of an old time car. I said go no further so I should be in hand.

It is fifty miles down to the little town, the train would leave in a couple of hours, and it is snowing. I would tilt the hay road out in a few minutes with tails a ringing.

The gentleman with the steepest intention in the world, nonchalantly inquired if I had experience. I said I would win an amount with a little. Dugan, the old boy, said I knew his own people, so rather than I should have the money in my hand, I would have had to possibly get the money for my good reason, such as being in bed with four months and quarantined for rashes.

Incidentally, the record should show that well-to-do neighbors did still out literally on the spur of my great moment in amounts more than sufficient. I am further moved to remark the old saying is still true that we mountain people are like wind lips in that we eat each other but let one of us equal, and the whole drive packs to his relief.

For seven generations my people have tracked the Seneca Trail, some time to live and some to die after the I think—but none of the best ever was that long trail winding with greater temptation of heart. However, you know the old saying, no fool no fun, so I went along determined to have a good time, regardless how long I did stand it all. Oh, why should the heart of a mortal be proud!

The trip from the settlement on was just another train ride. At the point, there were directions to call the dog air's office. Reporting time, an interview was had, in which the short and sharper details of a poor country editor were jotted down for the professional writer to put within words and bounds for five minutes of dialogue—no more, so I—Then the news was made for studio rehearsal. Here your reading note is kind as in the radio broadcast, the script revised, and to end out on words marked to emphasize. Then other details for the revised script. A title was just about as dish water and is on the way of the hour. It was interesting as preparation for the New York, "We the People" were on some town pageant.

Nothing over a strenuous little outdoor swim session to lose it for the day and sit at a board, no matter how we alluding in the morning and it may appear when first exposed. So would it be coming up to the wings too much handling, if you

I have said before it is over a period of time for me to select my words just to show the works to those who wonder what it all may be about, say

There being no part nor parcel of play acting in my making up, there was no temptation to become temperamentally hysterical, as common, everyday language. So like the dumb, driven ox which I am I plodded along the junk laid out for me. I really realized I lost the particular desire to live and I lost the particular desire to live through it all, for I knew full well if I was allowed even to come back to the Greenhorn Valley, I could never hope to live the making down.

To silence the reader's suspense, I will here say I did live through the experience, and have returned to the bosom of my family. The such and so which packed the big theatre responded to the weak gaze about the scene as a gathering of mountain people.

There were kind, encouraging words from the management; there has been a flow of fan mail even the home people realized justly the threshold lines I saw over the air.

As an experience I would not take anything for it, but I do not choose any more. Like the old man who said he would not take a million dollars for his wife, but would hesitate to give a dime for another just like her.

My little skit was a dialogue between two editors. Exhibit Number One was Editor Schoenstein of the New York Journal American, 650,000 circulation, 1600 employees. Exhibit Number Two was your Editor of the Pocatello Times, 3,000 subscribers, 3 employees. I cottoned to the city editor so and; he is smart and he is likable. What a man I could have made of him if I had caught him early enough to train him up as a country editor. Here his personality would have touched humanity direct — a right on a bushel and not under it.

The Confederacy was pretty well represented on the stage that night. In addition to this unconstructed rebel. The director, Mr. Stromach, is one of the Virginia Cavaliers from Clark County. Miss Jane Pickens is a professional singer, whose head is set off as the clay hills of Georgia from whence she came. These two have joined the Yankees and now live in New York.

Then there was that son of the far South, Will Davis, executive secretary of the Board of Trade, city of Pensacola, Florida, turkey hunter and breed dog man. His mother was a professional singer. — About forty years ago, her singing of the ever popular song "O Primrose Me," was transcribed on a victrola record. Not one record could be found, though Mr. Davis sought diligently. "We the People" had one for him in an hour after his plea had gone out over the air.

Another on the job that night was Car Wood, that best racing son of Neptune, whose speed boats have won an easy race there is no one left with the nerve to challenge him.

There was the interesting Major of the late royal navy of Russia, who designs fast military planes for America these days.

Then there were Mr and Mrs George Lowther, of New York, whose recent courtship through mandarin proceedings and their elopement and marriage has been detailed from coast to coast in the daily papers. They are a nice young couple and I am for them. If they will send me their address when they go to house-keeping, I will help them start right to the extent of a year's subscription to the Pocatello Times.

The remaining feature of the program was a group of boys from the Bowery, who play harmonica. They were bright little dickens, with the souls of artists. I got real friendly with them. Don't ask me their names; I can hardly pronounce, much less spell them. They were of Italian extraction, mostly.

- Joe Little  
Trevor  
1/12/40

# Pearlontae - Chapter 4

## - DIED -

Mrs Pearlina Elizabeth Lambert was born at Case, Pendleton County, November 12, 1862; she departed this life December 8, 1928, at her home at Greensboro, aged 66 years and 21 days. She was a daughter of the late Benjamin and Sarah Simmons Elizabeths. She is survived by her half brother, Robert Mullins, and her half sister, Mrs Martha Lambert, both of Cherry Grove.

On August 18, 1882, she became the wife of James B. Lambert. To this union seven children were born. She is survived by her aged husband, and two children, Mrs Lloyd Collier, of Franklin and Mrs Homer Cassell, of Greensboro; also by twenty three grandchildren and four great grand children.

At the age of twelve years, Mrs Lambert made profession of her faith and raised with the United Brethren Church, ever living the faithful, consistent life of a Christian. She was a great church worker, a teacher in the Sabbath School, ready to do everything in her power to advance The Kingdom. She was a sympathetic friend and neighbor, a loving and affectionate mother.

The funeral service was held from the Greensboro Methodist Church by Rev. Claude R. Arledge. Burial in the Atlantic Cemetery. beside the grave of her son and daughter. The pall bearers were her grandsons and the flower bearers her granddaughters.

X

- 11 - ( 6 ) -

9/7/40

OLD TIMES

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(Dear Sirs: Please  
On January 3, 1985, my father, C  
C. Graham, passed away. His father  
was born in Greenback, a small town  
near Dush. There it was called "Big  
Mud." We are a family of four  
sons in the working world; however,  
two sons are on two counties  
wageless. Our wages were stolen by  
my uncle Samuel Sutton and the  
state attorney George Mather  
and I live in Uncle Sam's wage  
and father wageless and drive two  
cars. The first car we got on for  
Charles Koppa, and there we spent  
the night with the Peter D. Taylor  
and his good wife.

[illegible][illegible]

In August 1989 we returned to Durban using the same mode of travelling—on road transport.

Neither the C. J. O. at W. M., the Coal and Iron, as it was then known, had reached here yet. The preliminary surveys had been done for both roads, with various to open up the best third and four.

With the sounding of the construction siren, the testing days began. Dublin in three days was rough and ready, but when plans looked in sight of further operations such as O'Connell Camp and two final construction design could say it wasn't.

arrivals in the home with them. With George, Sam and Elizabeth's arrival, Sam is the only female left and Elizabeth is the only one in the older generation. Elizabeth's son, John W. Carpenter, Sherman's brother, was killed. Her son, Lewis Lynch and J. A. Carpenter, Mississippi. Mr. Carpenter was the cook and his mother was Elizabeth's son.

When the distributions were made the Coal and Iron reached what to me were new heights, my father said that the mail to the camp. On there that he would not go boarded the mail on horseback. A box was mailed in what is now the Lee Gifford farm for one of the designs and from there down to the river and back to four days following the railroad grade. It is August, at Uncle Felix's home was affectionately shown, was good, money and I was his assistant.

Days since O'Connell and the construction company paid off were little to be proud and I have changed the mail while John Bell or David Blaine stand guard with a Winchester.

When the C&O reached what is now West Durbin and the C&O what is now Durbin took their leaving through what is called the Durbin cut, where Durbin Arm tracks cross each other to lay out through the gap and the C&O gave the jump on the C&O. They couldn't save it on Saturday night in October 1902. Sunday two trains came out and when crossing came a flat car loaded with ties stood at the end of the track. This is where the switch is installed in its Tombstoner Tunnel. Tomorrow night.

There are 40 people grow from this station, which it is under. Located on U.S. 256, the station and the surrounding area are under the jurisdiction of the W.M. and C.O.G. of the World. There are two houses in the past office and one small country house on an almost undeveloped lot. The other two are served, a main station served to come in the winter, modern switch lights and power from the West. There is a small building, a small church, a small school, a small store and a small school and a small house in the country and mostly in the country. No other buildings are in the area. No other buildings are in the area.

Girls attend air out school for those who in the past years have participated for a high standard of living. Mr. Flynn, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hunter, Mr. McMillan and Mr. Foster. This group, assisted by a new group of teachers as expressed in the girls have made our school the best in our area.

I really start off out to describe "big" themes in transportation between northeast and Mid West (I'll guess you and I today but yet interrelated) and twisted around until I have (in a condensed history of Europe). To show the difference in modes of transportation I would suggest a trip a 1940 model car over West Route (and W. R. 250).

Mrs. F. F. Nelson

Pacekostas  
Tames  
1/18/40

DEAR Mr Price:

Several times in recent years I have read your comments on coyotes in Webster and nearby. Do you know why they are there?

Twentyfive of my forty years have been spent in Webster - have been glad there grade and school. Later bank cashier a few years in same county. All my life during hunting

season I have hunted the hills of Webster and adjoining counties.

About the years of 1877 and 1878 The Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company had some Spaniards or half Mexicans near Tea Creek on Gauley. One of their sports was dog fighting. They also brought into Gauley coyotes to fight their dogs. It was great sport to them. I have seen them shipped by express to Camden on Gauley from Western states. Camden on Gauley was the shipping point for the Gauley River lumber woods. Some of the coyotes were turned loose at Tea Creek and others escaped in the same locality.

This may not be anything new to you, but if you did not know it, then I will be glad to have informed you.

Claude A. Case.

Lost Creek, W. Va.

Hunters from Bath and Alleghany Counties, Virginia, are preparing to gather at Muddy Run, near Warm Springs, on Thursday, February 1, to hunt down the wolf or coyote which was killed over one hundred head of sheep for the farmers along Jacksons River the past year. It is believed the varmints is denoling in the Rocky Spring Hollow.

Dennis Griffin of Cloverlick caught the monster wild cat or bay lynx of the woods one day last week. It was forty five inches long from tip to tip, and would weigh nearly forty pounds. The books give the average length of a bay lynx at thirty six inches and its weight at twenty pounds. This big cat was caught in a steel trap, set near the boundary of the Seneca State Forest.

Years ago some prominent people in the world outside took to task my brother, the late Andrew Price; how come he persisted to live in this sparsely settled county, to hide under a bushel his bright light as an able lawyer and writer. In time he gave reply, expressing his sentiments in a really outstanding poem. I print it again, to show why we all like to live like Riley on Nameless Creek, where we are so happy and so poor:

The life I live, the life I prize  
Seems tame to world-worn weary eyes;  
Those frantic souls spurred on by  
lust,

For power and place till all is dust;  
They never know the sweet release  
Among the purple hills of peace.

I know not what the years may hold,  
My dreams may fade if I grow old,  
But this I know, each golden year,  
Makes home, and friends, and life  
more dear.

Each year the heavens brighter  
gleam,

Each year enhances field and stream.  
Join with me to the mountain height  
Bathed in a flood of morning light.

On every side the mountains stand,  
Awful, indomitable, grand,

Yet through an all-wise Thesmothee  
The wild flowers bloom about our feet  
I know I gaze with raptured eye,  
On scenes that once I idled by;  
I envy not the potentate,  
The rich, the mighty, high and great.  
My books, my friends, my mountains  
free,

Have been and are enough for me.



# Parabontas

## Chap. 4

### DR. JOHN M. YEAGER

Dr. John M. Yeager aged 63 years died Sunday afternoon, April 14, 1940. For a year he had been in failing health, though up to within a few weeks of his death he had been active in his practice. The cause of his death was paralysis, but in reality this beloved physician had worn himself out in service of sick and ailing humanity.

On Tuesday afternoon his body was buried in the family plot in Mt. View Cemetery. The funeral was conducted from the home in the presence of an immense throng of sorrowing friends by his pastor, Dr. H. Malcolm Stumm, of the Methodist Church. The pall bearers were C. H. Moore, Frank Kling, G. B. Callison, Keith Nottingham, Richard Curran and Senator Fred C. Allen.

John Moody Yeager was born at Harlow, April 7, 1877. He was the second son of the late Brown M. and Harriet Arhagat Yeager. Of his father's family there remains his four brothers, Walter, Sterling, Bruce and Paul; his sisters, Mrs. Browne Caterwood and Mrs. Tasia Carroll.

In 1902 Dr. Yeager was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Smith, daughter of Captain A. E. Smith. To this union were born four children, Guy M. of Amingo; L. A. of Franklin; Mrs. Elmer Smith and Mrs. W. E. Adams, of Washington, D. C.

Dr. Yeager was graduated in medicine at Louisville, Ky., in 1901 and for 39 years has practiced his profession in Lexington. He had a large practice, which reached to every walk of life. To rich and poor alike, his sympathetic heart went out in his passion to heal sick and broken bodies. No one will ever know the good this beloved physician did for it should be said he wore his life away and shortened his days in service to sick and suffering humanity. Blessed with a remarkable personality his circle of friends was wide for to know him was to love him.

"Know ye not that this day a great and good man has fallen?"

# THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

Entered at the Postoffice at Marlinton, W. Va., as second class matter.

CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3, 1928

You have heard how it has been said in old times a bright young man got himself on credit a hand me down printing press and a shirt tail full of type, a bundle of paper and a dab of ink to launch a periodical on the sea of an unsuspecting public; to make an editor or become a slave in the attempt; any one or both.

Out of the rack and wrack of such hit and miss procedures there did come out of such trials by fire a brand of old hickory, self made and self sustaining newspaper men. Of many it could be said of such hardy souls they could take the biggest drinks of liquor and write the dullest editorials. However, in rare instances the flux was just right, the dross to consume, the gold to refine, for from the flames would arise, phoenix like, an editor all to the good.

Would that I could go on with descriptive tribute to such an editor whose price is far above rubies, but the above labored writing is merely preface to saying future editors of America are now being milled out in the Department of Journalism of the University of West Virginia: "The education and training of newspaper men and women should be on a level with the preparation of other leading professions." And here, too, would that I could jay off on to a piece of writing about how our University is now fulfilling its sphere by weaving strands into the warp and woof of citizenship which strengthen the fabric of our social order. This too will have to be deferred for I have some good writing to present.

Some weeks ago I wrote a piece on the present low estate of the Fourth Estate: Dr. P. L. Reed, head of the University Department of Journalism read the rambling observations and was provoked to remark, in part as follows:

"The worst aspect of the whole

...the best aspect is  
...the present...  
...a rather searching inven-  
...of their journalistic stock and  
...are not waiting for some force from  
...the outside to force and 'houseclean-  
...ing' upon them. When the editors  
...and publishers themselves have the  
...intelligence and courage to look  
...things fairly in the face and then set  
...out to try to do something about it,  
...we may rest assured that whatever  
...weaknesses we may discover in our  
...profession are likely to be remedied.

In the journalistic solemnity of  
...things the reader is the important  
...factor. He is king. We are all his  
...servants. And so long as we make it  
...clear in what we publish that we are  
...first of all thinking of the general  
...welfare, we are not going to get into  
...any difficulty and are going to have  
...plenty of staunch friends among our  
...readers. But when we forget the  
...reader and the general good, he has a  
...way of curing that misdeed rather  
...promptly. And all of us in the pro-  
...fession know exactly what his method is.

"Freedom of expression and free-  
...dom of the press are gems of priceless  
...worth. They belong to the people  
...not alone to the publisher. With the  
...news reels and the radio hesitating  
...at times to say aloud what some are  
...thinking, it becomes the duty of  
...every newspaperman to see that not  
...the slightest encroachment on the  
...freedom is allowed. And if we play  
...sincerely and decently with our read-  
...ing public, I don't think there is any  
...power on land or sea that is going to  
...shake in even the smallest way the  
...great liberty that we as newspaper-  
...men in this country have enjoyed and  
...value almost above life. One of the  
...best ways for us to keep that power  
...safe to withstand every onslaught of  
...tyrannies is for us to . . . take  
...an honest look at ourselves and  
...speak, even to ourselves, the truth  
...that may hurt a bit."

I get a letter the other day from a  
...writer's project, bringing the request  
...to give some facts and figures about  
...the Greenbank community, and some  
...families in the way of a ball hunting  
...story about Hunterville.

To consider the last item of the re-  
...quest first, I will here again repeat  
...the further killing experience of  
...Squire James Sharp, more than a cen-  
...tury since. The Squire was a son of  
...William Sharp, the pioneer, who set-  
...tled at Hunterville in 1773, at the  
...age of about 40 years. His declaration  
...for a pension in 1837, recites that he  
...saw service in the campaign to the  
...Indian town in 1764, to bring back

disposition . . .  
load of iron  
-action of  
and Sash  
Picture no 2  
for New Hospital  
Warrior, a State Ins  
treatment of Negroes suffering  
subpreloals The gentleman with

ing calf. Properly reinforced, Mr  
Sharp went back to the spot where he  
had fired nine times and there beheld  
what no hunter had seen before or  
since. Nine dead panthers; every  
shot had told with fatal effect. It  
appears there were seasons when  
these animals went in packs and this  
appears to have been one of those  
times.

Greenbank, formerly village, of upper  
Pocahontas, is situated in the green  
plain like valley of the Deer Creek  
and its North Fork. The first set-  
tlers came there prior to the Ameri-  
can Revolution from the Valleys of  
the Shenandoah, the Jackson, the  
Caponisate and the South Branch, of  
the Potomac River. Their settlers  
were mostly Scotch Irish, with some  
English and German names.

I have heard the name come from  
the grassy slope of the plateau on  
which the old Liberty Church and the  
modern high school are situated.  
This sunny bank greens early in spring  
and the name. However, I got  
some dependence in the tradition the  
place was named for the sake of the  
village of Greenbank in old England.  
Anyway one of the early settlers was  
William Nottingham, a native of  
England, a part of whose farm is now  
a part of the Uriah Hovener estate.  
He came here just after the Revolu-  
tion, and maybe he brought him-  
self of the village of Greenbank back  
home when he saw his new home sur-  
roundings.

Sometime prior to the Revolution  
John Warwick settled at the forks of  
Deer Creek on lands still occupied by  
his descendants. Here he built the  
community fort, as early as 1770 and  
maybe a year or two before the great  
rush into that valley beginning about  
that year. The action of this fort  
in such good hunting and fishing  
country was exasperating to the In-  
dians, and they were very trouble-  
some to the settlers living within  
reach of the fort. On one occasion,  
an Indian was seen to climb a tree  
to reconnoiter the fort; he was located  
and shot by Major Jacob Warwick.  
Once when this fort was invested by  
Indians, one of the attacking party  
shot an arrow into the enclosure from

days is the large gallery for the color-  
ed retainers of the families of the  
congregation. Meeting house and  
necation room have ever been kept up  
in good repair and in recent years a  
Sunday School room has been added.  
Strong pastors have served this peo-  
ple. In the early days there were  
such men as Dr. Kennedy, from New  
Jersey; Dr. John C. Barr, later for so  
many years pastor of the First  
Church in Charleston; F. A. H.  
Hamilton, later of Spotsylvania; and  
William T. Price. The . . .  
and the . . .

Greenbank is a village but it has a  
high school which in size and im-  
portance would be a credit to a city  
of five thousand people. For that  
matter by means of transportation of  
pupils it serves a wide spread popu-  
lation of the big Greenbank District.

Away back in 1862, General Assem-  
bly of the Commonwealth of Virginia  
established the Greenbank Academy,  
a preparatory branch of the University  
of Virginia. For nearly twenty  
years this academy played an impor-  
tant part in the cultural and educa-  
tional development of a whole people  
until taken up by the war between  
the states.

No part of West Virginia was more  
thoroughly ravaged by war than  
Pocahontas county, and no part of  
the county suffered in greater degree  
than Greenbank. The contending  
forces were marching, camping, fight-  
ing and raiding through from the  
very beginning to almost the end,  
with home talent bushwhacking  
activities on the side in at any time.

Greenbank was strongly southern  
in sympathy. The Greenbank Com-  
pany, or "Mountain Rifles," who  
mustered in consisted of 110 men.  
Of these, 100 were six feet or more  
in height. This company was as-  
signed to the 31st Virginia Infantry  
a fighting company of a fighting reg-  
iment. There were 95 casualties.  
They followed Jackson from McDowell  
on. After Jackson's death at the  
Wilderness, they saw Antietam, Get-  
tysburg, Cold Harbor, around Rich-  
mond, Petersburg, and the rest. The  
company suffered terribly in the  
Bloody Angle at Spotsylvania County  
House. Again . . .

### Inventory of Materials

Topics: Biography W. Wa.

Title "The Pathfinder of the Seas." (Matthew F. Henry)

Author: Mrs. Rella G. Yeager

Status: Complete

Date Submitted:

Length: 19.5 cm

Continues

Filtering

Contents Complete statement on life of "The  
Pathfinder of the Seas" - Matthew Wain-  
wright Murray. Gives description of his  
life in U. S. Navy; his scientific chart  
and volumes "Sailing Directions"; Brussels  
Conference of 1853.

## Sources

Consultant \_\_\_\_\_

Polisab111111: not checked

File# Biography

Folder# \_\_\_\_\_

## "THE PATHFINDER OF THE SEAS"

Maurry

1950

C

Americans have not always acknowledged the greatness of their fellowmen. This has been characteristic of the Nation. While there are occasional movements toward recognition of the public services of some distinguished son of the Republic, there are still many who today are practically unknown by the American People. This is unfortunately true of one whom all Europe proclaimed as the "greatest American of his times" but who is not familiar to his own countrymen.

It is therefore our privilege to give the first national record in an American Historical Journal of Commander Matthew Fontaine Maury, the American who charted the winds and the currents of the Oceans; who gave to the world the new science of meteorology; who is in reality the father of the National Observatory at the seat of our National Government and who originated the great system today is known as the Weather Bureau.

There is no American whose service to his generation was so great and whose life at home was spent in such seclusion; about him there was the modesty of greatness, for as an American he refused the highest scientific honors of Europe and renounced wealth, fame and even a palace as the gift of an emperor, to pass his last days in the hills of Virginia that he loved. Our beloved West Virginia shares this honor with Virginia, the Mother State.

A friend of kings, he passed away in the beautiful little town of Lexington, Virginia, within the shadow of the graves of Robert E. Lee and General Stonewall Jackson. Through the Journal of American History the life and character of this Great American has just been completed.

The investigator is an authority in southern history who is intimately acquainted with those among whom Commander Matthew Fontaine Maury spent his life, and from private historical sources has prepared this record.

Though this investigation a movement has also been made for the erection of a monument to the great American, with an appropriation from the Congress of the government that he so well served.

With the beginning of the past century, on the 14th of January, 1806, only ten miles from the city of Fredericksburg in the County of Spotsylvania, Virginia, was born Matthew Fontaine Maury. He came of goodly stock, for there mingled in his nature, in equal parts, the sturdy religious life of the French Huguenote and the gallantry of the English Cavalier. On his mother's side he belonged to the distinguished Miner family of Virginia, while his name bears testimony that his paternal ancestors were of the choice Huguenots who, from the persecutions of Catholic France stretched their arms to the new world.

When Maury was only five years old, his parents went to Tennessee and settled near the present town of Franklin. There 'mid the forests of Tennessee in the days of the early settlers, before advanced civilization had built her great highways of travel or her schools of learning, there grew up the lad who was to become the "Pathfinder of the Sea".

Few were the early educational advantages of young Maury, but an accident in his youth that seemed to disqualify him for farm life, led his father to give him an opportunity at Harpeth Academy.

The activity of his mind brought him into the special notice of his instructors and the association ripened into life long friendship.

J. M. Otey, afterward Bishop of Tennessee, and William C. Macbrouck, to whom Maury dedicated his work on "The Physical Geography of the Sea" were his teachers at the Academy. Maury's ambition was for a course at West Point but his parents denied this to him. Young Maury left home without his father's blessing, for without their knowledge he sought an appointment in the Navy. In 1825 an inland lad of 19 years, Matthew Maury received his appointment to the United States Navy, and was assigned as midshipman on the frigate "Brandywine".

There was no Naval Academy, for it was Maury himself who first advocated the establishment of the great government school at Annapolis.

this young aspirant for Naval honors, must needs prosecute his studies amid the trying scenes of active sea service. It at once became evident that Maury had resolved to master both the theory and practice of his profession.

His comrades of that early period relate that on the round spot of the quarter-deck, he chalked his diagrams in spherical trigonometry to enable him, when on duty pacing to and fro, to employ the precious moments in useful study. It chanced that during the first year of his service, the "Brandywine" bore La Fayette from his visit to this country.

Tradition tells us that the distinguished Marquis spoke many pleasant and encouraging words to the studious midshipman. In 1825, Maury was transferred to the sleep-of-war "Vincennes"--about to make a cruise around the world. The opportunities for study on this voyage were such to his advantage, and on his return home, he was ready for his examinations.

In 1831, he was appointed master of the sleep-of war "Falmouth" which had been ordered to Pacific waters. He at once sought diligently for information as to the best track for his vessel, but no reliable charts for his guidance were in existence. He keenly realized that here was a great need to be supplied and his bold and active brain forthwith began to grapple with the problem of ocean charts.

On this voyage he observed the curious phenomenon of the low barometer off Cape Horn, and wrote upon the subject his first scientific paper and it was at this time that he began his textbook on navigation.

At his home for a time in 1834, two important events occurred. He was married to Miss Anna Harnden of Fredericksburg, Virginia. From this time on we find much of his time and life woven into the history of the old "Burg on the Rappahannock. The other event that marked this year at home, was the publication of his first book, a treatise on navigation, which became for many years a text book in the United States Navy, and was in every essential particular outlined by Matthew Maury.

He saw it as a vision from heaven with blessings to earth, and he failed not to prophesy to his people. It was on his return from the Brussels Conference to his post at Washington, laden with honors that Maury stood clearly before the world,

"the founder of the twin sciences of hydrography and meteorology". No less a man than Alexander Von Humbolt declared him the "father of a new science", and was distinguished Baron in his 90th year wrote him a fervid letter of congratulation.

The simple De hot pot of charts and instruments entrusted to the young lieutenant became a National Observatory, with the great man of science as its superintendent. In all particulars this National Observatory under 'sury, outlined and comprehended, what now at Washington is divided into four separate departments. Science has conferred no greater boon upon the world than the great ocean cables, that flash the news. It was the genius of Commander Maury that from all this dry data brought forth, those scientific deductions that revolutionized the ship sailing of the world. This took form in a series of six charts and eight large folio volumes of "Sailing Direction", that comprehended all waters in every clime where fly the white sails of civilized commerce. The charts are known as "Maury's wind and currents chart", and are styled "Track Charts," "Thermal Charts," and "Storm and Rain Charts." They exhibit with wonderful accuracy, the winds and currents, their force and direction at different seasons of the year, the temperature of the surface waters, the calm belts and trade winds, the rains and the storms.

The eight volumes are of "Sailing Directions" and are brim full of the most valuable nautical information, and are treasures to every intelligent seaman. With these charts and directions, the navigator knows for each season, and in all waters where he has best chances for a swift and safe voyage. Some idea of the work accomplished can be formed from the statement that 20,000 copies of "Sailing Directions" were distributed gratuitously to the merchant vessels.

The practical result to the navigator of the revelations of this great "Pathfinder of the Sea" has been that in the most difficult of all sea-voyages, that from New York to San-Francisco, around Cape Horn, the trip has been shortened by forty days, and it has been estimated that in shortening the time and lessening the dangers of sea-voyage there has been a saving to the world's commerce of not less than 140,000,000 annually.

The accuracy of Maury's work was shown when on one occasion, the "San Francisco" with troops on board was severely damaged in an Atlantic hurricane. The helpless wreck drifted out to the sea.

The Secretary of the Navy appealed to Maury, who estimated where wind and waves acting upon a helpless wreck, would drift the vessel. With a blue pencil he marked the spot on his chart. To this spot relief was sent, and the survivors rescued.

In his "Physical Geography of the Sea", in his discussion of "Sea Routes", Maury has this to say: "So to shape the course on voyages as to make the most of winds and currents at sea, is the navigator's art. How the winds blow and the currents flow along this route is no longer a matter of opinion or subject of speculation, but a matter of certainty determined by actual observation. The winds and the weather daily encountered by hundreds who have sailed on the same voyage before him and 'the distance made good' by each from day to day, have been tabulated and arranged for the mariner; nay, his path has been literally blazed through the winds for him on the sea; mile posts have been set up on the waves, and finger-boards planted, and time tables furnished for the trackless waste."

The international character of the work soon led to an international conference. It was at Maury's instance that in 1853 the United States called the celebrated Brussels Conference. It was a notable gathering of scientific men. Nearly every important maritime nation was there represented and a systematic plan of co-operation provided. It was at this conference that Maury advocated the extension of the same system of meteorological observations to land also and thus form a weather bureau, helpful to Agriculture. This he continued to urge and agitate in his papers and addresses all over the country until the very close of his life. The great Signal Service and Weather Bureau, successfully operated in the world today from continent to continent and for this the debt is due to Maury, for the great Atlantic cable is one of the radiant sparks that flew from his anvil as he wrought.

The Physical Geography of the Sea and its meteorology he founded the way to the very heart of nature and land before us her majestic seas.

master of a pure English style he sets before us the marvelous phenomena of earth and sea.

Master of a pure English style he sets before the marvelous phenomena of earth and sea and air, in thought and language that flows deep and strong, and warm and life giving like the great current of the Gulf Stream.

No American has ever received higher testimonials from foreign countries; Orders of Knighthood were bestowed upon him by the Emperor of Russia, King of Denmark, King of Portugal, King of Belgium and Emperor of France, while other countries struck gold medals in his honor. The Pope sent him a full set of all the medals struck during his pontificate and Maximilian decorated him with the "Cross of our Lady Guadalupe". By special request Alexander Von Humboldt bestowed upon him the "Cosmos Medal", struck in honor of the great Baron. It is the only duplicate of that medal in existence.

The Cambridge University of England conferred on him the degree of L.L.D. It is said that in Berlin there stands a statue to his memory. Thus Kings, to do him honor, took delight. The only civilized nation that has withheld adequate recognition of his services has been the government of the United States. All that has come to him from his own government has been the meager pay of his rank in the Navy.

In the Capital City where for twenty years his great brain projected influence that are blessing the whole civilized world today, and are the very honor and glory of our own land, there stands no memorial of his service, no bronze or marble to tell of his greatness. There is not even a bust nor a portrait in the National Observatory where his work was done.

When this nation built its National Library, from all nations and all ages were brought names through worthy to be woven into the beautiful Mosaic of that national structure, but while the antiquarian dug deep to find some of the names that are there, we look in vain for that of him who, born on our native soil and toiling under the very shadow of the Capitol, became the founder of twin sciences

that amaze the mind with their wonders and shed light and blessing  
the earth. the ends of

The claims of Maury for recognition at the hands of this nation  
upon Military service, or any relation he bore, or did not bear that bro<sup>rest</sup>  
to war. It reeste upon a service that eaves live and property, a service t<sup>e</sup> in-  
one of the brightest stars that adorn the victoriees of peace.

Maury is one of the greatest names that adorns the history of Virginia.  
not think the name of Maury is forgotten in his own land. It is too closely wor  
into his great science ever to be lost to the world.

The Congress of Meteorology must render to the name of Maury a tribute of  
profound gratitude, as the founder of our science and the highest honor for his  
great researches in every department of this science.

April 27, 1940

Halle Y. McLaughlin  
Marlinton, W. Va.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Chapter 4 - Section 4 - part b - question 1.

You asked for a socially inherent reason for the formation of a separate county. I looked through the County Records and all of the Histories of the counties of which Pocahontas had been a part and could not find the answer to this question. In desperation I went to Mr. Calvin Price and he assured me that this had never been put in print but that he could give me the reason and that I could quote him.

It seems that the people from Marlinton, Huntersville, and this section of the county had to go to Wern Springs to Court. The people from Greenbank and the upper part of the county had to go to Franklin. The people from the Elk section of the county had to go to Beverly, and those from Swago and the lower end of the county had to go to Lewisburg. Mr. Price says that the people in what is now Pocahontas County being more or less related, they just decided to form a compact county of their own with the county seat at Huntersville.

If this isn't sufficient information, let me know and perhaps I can get something more from Mr. Price, for at times he seems to be our only source of information, and he is always most kind about helping us.



Journal

Inventory of Materials

Topic: 2 S. Va.

Title: 2. From the

Author: main

Date Submitted: 8-1-55 Length 171 words

Abstract

Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments

Article from Circulating Exposed paper



Source

Comments

Reflected

File: \_\_\_\_\_

Reflected

Washington Examiner Sept 8, 1908  
(Sunday)

Richmond, Sept. 7.

Farble from the famous Cranberry Swamp  
is provided by experts of the Smithsonian  
Museum as a receipt of a  
note by Dr. Paul Bartsch, head curator of  
the institution and chief of the department of  
zoology at George Washington University.  
Bartsch & Dr. T. C. Smith, 1008 D.C.  
are sons of Mrs. Billie Smith, here.

Not since James MacFarlane  
was right as Cranberry Swamp, Dr. Bartsch  
said. "The resident moose is a mystery  
as to how it grows here and from where it  
comes. In the far north there are no moose  
yet, but why it should be in this section  
just in D.C. is beyond me."

D.C.

5



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# STATE ATTRACTIONS CITED BY BIAS IN ADDRESS TO CLUB

West Virginia Leads in Percent-  
age of Native-Born White  
Population

## RESIDENTS WIN WORLD FAME

First Battles of Revolution and  
Civil War Fought in Borders  
—Leads in Glass Output

An historical sketch of West Virginia, including each progressive step from the time of Virginia's secession during the Civil war, was given by H. Randolph Ross, Williamson attorney, before an unusually large audience of members and guests of the Washington Women's club at the monthly general meeting this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the club house.

Mrs. Karl C. Pritchard, president of the club, presided at the meeting and the program was sponsored by the Civics department, of which Mrs. Douglas W. Brown is chairman. The business session was entitled in order to give Mr. Ross time for his address, "West Virginia," which has received widespread notice in the state.

Mr. Ross is a prominent attorney in Williamson, being former assistant prosecuting attorney of Mingo county and former president of the West Virginia State Bar association. The address this afternoon, in part, follows:

"West Virginia was born of the Civil war because that part of Virginia which now constitutes West Virginia was loyal to the Union and refused to secede.

### Descendants From Colonials

The fifty-five counties have twenty-five thousand square miles of area and a million and a half of the best people on earth.

The people are honest, truthful, industrious, law-abiding and God-fearing. Largely descended from the colonists of Virginia, eighty-nine and nine-tenths per cent of them are native-born whites.

The railroad companies their present coast. Connected to Baltimore & Ohio; Pittsburgh to the Chesapeake & Ohio and Kears to the Virginian. "June Pierpont, who established Memorial Day," was a West Virginian, as was Ann Jarvis, who founded "Mother's Day." Alexander Wade, father of the graded school system, was a West Virginian as was Alexander Campbell, founder of a great church.

To literature, poetry and history we have furnished such people as David E. Strother, known in Civil war times as Fort Grayson; Daniel B. Lucas and his sister, Virginia Lucas, Fannie Kynble Johnson, Dr. John P. Hale, Governor George W. Atkinson, Governor William A. McConkie, William A. Edwards, Virgil A. Lewis, William Henry Foote, Hugh Maxwell, Bishop George W. Peterkin and Dr. James Monroe Callaghan.

"Thomas Dunn English was a resident of Logan county when he wrote that memorial called, "Ben Bolt."

"Leslie Thrasher, one of America's best known artists and illustrators, is also a West Virginian.

"The rural free delivery mail system was originated by Ross W. L. Wilson, a West Virginian, who was postmaster general under President Cleveland.

"A West Virginian now is the head of the American army. A West Vir-

### STATE ATTORGENS CITED BY BIAS IN ADDRESS TO CLUB

### West Yaman Leads in Percentage of Native Born White Population

#### RESIDENTS WIN WORLD TAME

First Battles of Revolution and  
Civil War Fought in Barbours  
— Leads in Glass District

An historical sketch of West Virginia, including each progressive step from the time of Virginia's secession during the Civil war, was given by a handsome man, who seemed to enjoy before an unusually large audience of students and guests of the Mountain View high school the several papers, writing his story.

Mr. Karl C. Richard, president of the club residing at the intersection of the program was introduced by the youth department, of 1944 Mrs. Richard W. Brown is deceased. The building, however was available to assist in the Mr. West there for his efforts West Virginia which has received a national award in the state.

West Virginia was born of the Civil War because that part of Virginia which now constituted West Virginia, was loyal to the Union and refused to secede.

**Boys' Book From Colorado**  
The fifty-two counties have 150,000 by the thousand square miles of land and a million and a half of the boys come in each.

The paper says houses, schools, industries are closing and families are largely deserted the entire southeast of Virginia, where there are thousands of cases of those who are

STONING WAS DONE BEFORE VIRGINIA WAS DISMEMBERED, LIES LEO VIRGINIA  
SPEAKS IN CHURCH JOHN CROWN, FROM  
SOUTHERN AFRICA. TOWN OF

According to the December 15 in-  
formation, the Senate of the Con-  
stitution Washington Jefferson Mar-  
shall, Madison, Monroe, Henry  
Klatsin, Th. Randolph, the last ex-  
ecutive committee, then one after another

Except for scraps of the wire (steel) fences there are no signs of progress of the Barbours in West Virginia than in any other

One roomy in West Tegal  
(Berkley) stay in our house in Di  
Nedrahe Dine at RA gettad. M  
clafing Deved Gated. Chafes la

—You turn, ladies, at the Revolution  
Upon Pittsburg?—one thought in the  
Virginia, and no man has had more  
in Fort Henry.

\*The 1980 season at the club was very tough at Philson. The 100-acre sugar estate in the hills was run by a West Vietnamese who had been a member of the National Assembly.

[illegible]

and, with the Bear, which was very tame and a very young one, of the Alton 1.

Das erste internationale Netz wurde  
am 1. April 1964 in Bonn in der  
Dachhalle der Messe eröffnet.  
Es ist das erste internationale Netz  
in der Bundesrepublik.

Herbert Day was a West Virginiaan, as was Ann James and awarded "Mother's Day" Alexander Watts, brother of the graduate who today was a West Virginiaan.

"The Ministry Policy and History of Life Insured such people as David B. Bluff, known as the

**U.S. House of Representatives**—**Senate**  
**D. LLOYD HILL**, Md., chair; Virginia  
 Lloyd, William Kenneth Johnson, Jr.  
 John F. Ross, Governor George W.  
 Robinson, Chairman William A. Mac-  
 Gowan, Secretary of State.

<sup>2</sup>Thomas Dunn English was a resident of Lewis county where he was

\* Larry Virenson, one of America's best X-ray artists and illustrators, is also a West Virginian.

It was organized by Sen. W. L. Wilson, a Pitts Virginian who was previously general under President Cleveland.

at the American 1967. A West Virginian is at the heart of our national air service 1967. A West Virginian was, in 1968, the nominee for president of the United States.

"We have today, with General White's able support, through the kindness and good will of the five million deficit. We have with us the greatest high school in the

When I was kindred, 1215 people were killed in 1970 by the 1970. We should fifteen hundred high school teachers and have more than twenty-five thousand high school students.

United-Steel daily, I was told, I had a physician, four supervisors and property valued at \$175,000 and \$200,000. Today I have two medical instruments and property worth more than two

"High Virginia has never been  
furnished almost everywhere  
before. We have had enough  
of the world and now we have  
a new and more interesting one."

The paper produced at the highest grade and also enough to supply internal demand for the country. Monthly we produce 100,000 tons of the total production of the country.

The latest census shows that in 1990, 1.2 million of the population is under 15, but 100,000 are under 5.

[illegible]

# Pocahontas

## Chapter 4

### MEHALA MORAN McNEIL

Mrs. Mehala Caroline Moran McNeil, aged 77 years, died February 2, 1946, at her home on Swago. Though her health had been failing for some time her death was unexpected. On Sunday afternoon her body was laid in the family plot in the Dockley cemetery; the service was conducted from the Swago church by Rev. J. C. Wool.

Mrs. McNeil was a daughter of the late John C. and Mary LaRue Moran. She was born in Grayson county, Va. She came with her parents to Pocahontas county in 1894. Of her father's family there remains her three sisters, Mrs. Matilda Auldridge of Beckley, Mrs. Lydia Clayton of Summersville and Mrs. Annie Collins of Charleston.

On December 15, 1897, she became the wife of the late Charles L. McNeil, who died about 30 years ago. To this union three children were born—John, at home; Bennett of Vanderpool, Va., and Mrs. Mary P. Turner, of Tebity, Texas.

### MRS. LELLA BURE MOORE

Mrs. Lella Bure Moore, aged sixty three years, wife of E. N. Moore of Dummore, died of a heart attack on Thursday, February 1, 1946. The funeral service was held from the Dummore church on Saturday morning by her pastor, Rev. Quade Arbogast, assisted by Rev. A. B. Wilkford. Burial in Riverview cemetery, Roncesverte, Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Moore was a daughter of the late J. Austin and Miriam Hannah Barr, of Roncesverte. Her brothers are Leland, of Ravenswood, Leslie, of Birmingham, Alabama; Harry, of Detroit, Michigan; Joe of Charleston; Rev. Quinn Barr, of Roanoke, Va. Her sisters are Mrs. Samuel Myers of Corvallis, Washington, and Mrs. H. F. Jamieson of Centerville, Ala.

She is survived by her husband and three son children, Elsie and Ernest N. Moore, Jr.

—The Winston Chronicle  
2/8/46

Parahanta  
Chapter 4

Dear Gentle Civilian

Your paper will soon be buried in the following magazines

The reference in the inquiry of Mr. Fitch about John, George, Harmon, I think he was a great-grandson of Michael and Elizabeth Woolfall Harmon born 2100 1784. Their eldest son was George John, born 1725, died 1810 married Eunice Perkins, daughter of Ebenezer Perkins, of Pennsylvania. Their sixth child George married Rebecca Casey. They had children but I don't know of any other than George who married Sally McNeill. Captain Jack who married Anne McNeill John, Jr., (Case?) who married Jane Walton in 1825, Anna who married Jacob Van Meter, Jane Anne who married George Catheygiam; Catherine who married Isaac Catheygiam.

John and Jane Walton Harmon had C. E. David, Henry, George Wm. Wirt, 1823 1898, who married Mary A. Tornefeld, Martha, and Elina both, who married Benjamin McNaughton.

George and Sallie McNeill Harmon had Molly, who married Jack Wm. Faxon; Ann Rebecca who married James Heylandall.

There is a wonderful mixture of kin in this family. They all came from that garden spot of America in the South Branch Valley of the Potomac.

Recall the child John, old Michael and Elizabeth Woolfall Harmon had Elizabeth, 1727 1804, married Philip F. Yeakum; Barbara married Allen at Sea; he died in 1804. They were the parents of Adam S., born September 29 1764 who married Margee, daughter of Major Jacob and Mary Vance of Frederick, of Potomac County. He and his brother, Michael Jr., came from Hardy County to Randolph County about 1790.

Marguerite Harmon married Adam Trumbo and according to Kentucky. See Simon's Virginia and the Frontier Papers, Winchester, England, Ky.

Dorothy Harmon married Samuel Bernbeck and went to Kentucky. See paper above.

Adam Harmon was killed by the Indians while cutting hay in Baker's Fork Plain now Harjo County, about 1745 to 1750.

Leonard married a Miss Rye, and some say, went to Indiana. The family had a noted ranchman known as Colonel Harmon, who formerly lived at Ponca City, Oklahoma.

Peter Harmon married Susan Harvey. They had a child, mother and child were killed by Indians.

James married Anna. His first wife was a Peoria. Their children, Mary A. married George Palmer, Barbara

Jacob's second wife was a Peoria, I think. Their son was Conrad who married Rebecca Turner. Jacob when an old man, left most of his estate to his son George. The daughter objected, so Conrad gave him the estate. In 1812 he made up a list, names and set out for Indiana. There he found his lands. He took his wagon train from the south. Jacob and went by way of Kentucky. There the family stayed a month or so with their kin who had given them before. The train was so large it took a week to cross the Mississippi River. Capt. Harmon, of Los Angeles, California who married Lillian, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Austin, formerly of Potomac County, is a great grand son of the amiable Conrad, of Maryland.

Conrad, son of old Michael, married Mary Yeakum. He and his family were killed by the Indians. Before long home from church where he is said to have been baptised (by spiritualism says Rev. Stone) an Indian stepped from the woods. He took to the trails the horse on which Michael Harmon rode brandishing his tomahawk. Conrad came to the rescue of his wife, and the Indian killed them all.

George 1729 1811, married Eliza Beth Yeakum. They had children, among whom were Elizabeth who married Jack Burton. Her E. F. Crummett, 1875 Hinkle Road, E. Cleveland, Ohio, is a descendant.

Michael Harmon Jr., married Catherine Van Meter.

These people possessed what was Hardy County, Elizabeth Woolfall Harmon lived in Van Meter in the history of the Van Meter family, to take back the fact which was to have set foot in this part of Virginia.

George and Dorcas Arnold, (Van Meter, Ark.) 300 West 8th Street, Lowell, New Mexico.

- Family Tree

1/1/4

# **DIED:-**

## **DR. JOHN M. YEAGER**

Dr. John M. Yeager aged 62 years died Sunday afternoon, April 14, 1948. For a year he had been in failing health, though up to within a few weeks of his death he had been active in his practice. The cause of his death was paralysis, but in reality this beloved physician had worn himself out in service of sick and ailing humanity.

On Tuesday afternoon his body was buried in the family plot in Mt. View Cemetery. The funeral was conducted from the home in the presence of an enormous throng of sorrowing friends by his pastor, Dr. H. Malcolm Storms, of the Methodist Church. The pall bearers were C. B. Moore, Frank King, G. S. Callison, Keith Nottingham, Richard Carrency and Senator Fred C. Allen.

John Moody Yeager was born at Barlow, April 9, 1877. He was the second son of the late Brown M. and Harriet Arbogast Yeager. Of his father's family there remains his four brothers, Walker, Stocking, House and Paul; his sisters, Mrs. Brown's Greenwood and Mrs. Texas Carrell.

In 1900 Dr. Yeager was united in marriage to Miss Mollie Smith, daughter of Captain A. E. Smith. To this union were born four children: Guy M. of Andale; L. A. of Frank; Mrs. Elmer Smith and Mrs. W. E. Adams, of Washington, D. C.

Dr. Yeager was graduated in medicine at Louisville, Ky., in 1901 and for 39 years has practiced his profession in Martinsburg. He had a large practice, which reached to every walk of life. To rich and poor alike, his sympathizing heart went out in his passion to heal sick and broken bodies. No one will ever know the good this beloved physician did for it should be said he wore his life away and shortened his days in service to sick and suffering humanity. Blessed with a remarkable personality, his circle of friends was wide for to know him was to love him.

"Know ye not that this day a great and good man has fallen"

## **MRS. NAOMI VANKEEMAN**

Mrs. Naomi VanKeehan was born August 30, 1872 and departed this life at her home on Stony Creek on Sunday, April 7, 1942 aged 67 years 7 months and 18 days, following an illness of six weeks of influenza and complications. Everything that loving hands could do was done for her but God knew best and called her to her eternal reward. She bore her suffering with patience and was resigned to His will who death all things well.

Mrs. VanKeehan was the only daughter of Francis M. and Rachel Gifford McCoy. On December 21, 1892, she was united in marriage to William M. VanKeehan, who preceded her to the grave six years ago. To this union were born 12 children, all of whom survive their mother. Mrs. Mild Tyler, Mrs. Lee S. Barlow, Bernard, Louise, Gilbert and Porter VanKeehan of Martinsburg; Dr. A. C. VanKeehan of Hackett; Forest VanKeehan of Warren, Ohio; Myrtle VanKeehan of Huntington, Hubert, Jane and Carl VanKeehan at home. She is also survived by her brother, A. C. McCoy of Redwood, Oklahoma, and 36 grandchildren besides a host of relatives and friends.

The funeral was conducted on Wednesday afternoon, from the West Union Church, by her pastor, Rev. E. H. Skaggs, assisted by Dr. Malcolm Storms of the Methodist Methodist Church, and she was tenderly laid to rest beside her husband in the Cochran Cemetery on Stony Creek.

The solemn in which Mrs. VanKeehan was held was attended to by the large concourse of friends who attended the last rites, also by the beautiful floral offerings. The flower girls were: Mrs. Vance Livingston, Mrs. Clarence Kallison, Mrs. Porter Sharp, Mrs. Allen Sharp, Mrs. Roy Dever, Miss Eugene Stremmen, Mrs. Harry Kress, Mrs. Ralph Elliott, Misses Anna Cole, Ethel Barlow, Betty Clay Sharp, Elizabeth Cochran, Norma Jane and Lory Clele Kallison.

The pall bearers were: Ralph Doty, Pauline Duncan, Porter Sharp, Neal Clawson and Jesse Deverage.

Mrs. VanKeehan had been a loyal member of the West Union Methodist Church for many years, having been converted in early life, and she lived a complete Christian life, loved by all who knew her. She was ever a devoted wife and mother, a good neighbor and friend.

## CHAPTER XI

### THE GREENER VALLEY

I am combining Pocahontas and Greener counties in this chapter, so that I may consider this entire region as a single unit. This great valley which is paralleled on the east by the Alleghany mountains, is a wonderland of majestic beauty, and geological history. Here are to be found phenomena of surprising beauty and fertility, with scarcely a scar on them. While over against them are mountain walls with limestone strata 500 feet thick. Under some of these limestone mountains are small caves from which flow streams large enough to turn a mill wheel. Mineral springs of various kinds, alum, sulphur-white and blue, notoriously known since the days of George Washington, for their medicinal virtues are to be found in this region.

To climb up over rugged limestone strata for five or six hundred feet above the river level, and come upon a beautiful plateau of many square miles in area, dotted with fine farm houses and fertile fields, then to climb a thousand feet higher to the crags of the mountain, is an interesting experience. Then from that mountain height look out over the great mountain ridges that resemble huge blue waves on a boundless ocean, one gets a thrill that dwellers on the lowlands can never know. I shall never forget the thrill of this mountain top view as my vision took in the vast sweep of panoramic beauty that lay before me.

To one accustomed to the crowding and jostling of city streets, the feeling of "elbow room," which is so force-

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fully expressed in our state motto MONTANA SEMPER LIBERI, "you experience as all an delight and glory. But I must forbear, and proceed with the story of the Church in this wonderful of natural beauty and uncultivated wealth.

Just when the Methodist Protestant Church was first introduced into the Greener Valley, there are no records to show. But as early as 1842 there was a well organized and prosperous circuit in this valley. On the roll of the quarterly conference was the names of many of the most prominent, and influential citizens of these two counties.

### BETHEL CHURCH—BUCKEYE

Perhaps the oldest society in Pocahontas county is at the Bethel Church in Buckeye, a small village a few miles down the valley from Markatos. It is related that when the first Methodist Protestant minister came into this community, he was refused the privilege of preaching at the same place where M. E. ministers had been holding services. Whether this was a private house or a meeting house is not related. Mr. John Buckley, not a church member, invited this new preacher to preach at his home. The invitation was gladly accepted, and a host of people came to hear this "new kind of Methodist." Preach his first sermon in that community. The people were so well pleased that a number of unconverted men went to work at once and built a log house in which to hold services. John Buckley donated the lot and James Rogers gave the shingles for the roof.

As soon as the meeting house was completed the new minister held a protracted meeting and many of the men who had helped to build the house were converted, and became charter members of the society that was formed.

at the close of the meetings. While this revival was in progress seventeen young people left a prayer-meeting at the M. P. Church and attended the revival services. For this act they were expelled from the M. P. Church. When the M. P. Class was formed these seventeen and eighteen others (35 in all) who had formerly been members of the M. P. Church, joined the new society formed at the new log church, then known as Buckley Church, but now called Bethel.

The oldest records show that Bethel church had more than one hundred members in 1853; among them were many of the most prominent citizens of the community. The Overholts, Buckley, McNeill, Rogers and McKeever families were leaders in the society. Old Bethel church has given to the conference two itinerant ministers and a few local preachers of ability. Rev. Dr. A. L. McKeeves and his half brother, Rev. Moore McNeill, were members here. These ministers' wives have come from the membership of Bethel church. Mrs. Rev. D. S. Boggs, who was Sabina Lashley Buckley, named in babyhood for Dr. Lashley's wife Mrs. Rev. M. M. Everett, who was Miss Overholt; Mrs. Rev. B. M. Mitchell, who was Miss Elizabeth Frances Penzell, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Penzell. And I am of opinion that a few more young ministers could find eligible young ladies in that community who would make fine ministers' wives.

Joshua Buckley, Jonathan McNeill, James Rogers, William Aldridge, Nellie Rogers, Elizabeth Fleming, Rufe Ken, Polly Kee, Angeline McNeill, Lucy Buckley, and Polly Buckley were some of the early members at Bethel. George McKeever, "Aunt Nancy McNeill," Mrs. Pennell, Mrs. and Mrs. William McNeill and John Buckley and wife are among the older members now.

The present house of worship at Buckeye was built under the pastorate of Rev. George W. Barrett and Rev. M. L. Smith, sometime in 1852. It is a neat com-



REV. A. L. MCKEEVES, D. D.

modious, frame building, and very creditable to the community and to the Methodist Protestant denomination.

The Greenbrier Valley has produced many able and distinguished ministers. And to old Bethel church at

Backers, belongs the honor of having given to the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, one of its prominent and successful ministers, who for more than forty years was active in the work of the conference.

Dr. McKeever was born July 24, 1844. He united with the Methodist Protestant Church at Bethel in 1866, and was licensed to preach by the quarterly conference of the Potomac district. He was admitted to membership in the annual conference with that famous class of 1871, six of whom served as presidents of the conference in succession: B. Storer, A. L. McKeever, D. G. Helmick, D. C. Wiese, J. M. Conaway and E. J. Willens.

Brother McKeever served many of the leading charges of the district, including Harrison, Lewis, Georgetown, Buchanan, Marine, Mt. Morris and Flemington circuits. He served two years as president, and was several times a delegate to the General Conference sessions. He preached his first sermon on Beaver Creek.

Dr. McKeever married Miss Sarah Young. One of his sons, Dr. Otto D. McKeever, is a distinguished minister of the M. E. Church and famous as a lecturer.

#### DROOP MOUNTAIN CHURCH

This old church is located at the base of Droop Mountain, in the lower end of what is known as "The Little Level," and a few miles south of Hillsboro.

The Little Level is one of those beautiful plateaus of which I wrote at the beginning of this chapter. It is some-  
by a thousand feet above the river, and extends up and down the valley for many miles. Some of the most beautiful and fertile farms in the state are located here.

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Running from this plateau, like a great haul of bread a thousand feet high in Droop Mountain.

The Droop Mountain society was organized by Dr. George Brews in 1842. Dr. Brown was president of the Pittsburgh conference, and was making an official visit to this circuit when he organized the society. Rev. Richard Walker was the pastor, and had been preaching in a private home near where the church stands. David Cochran and wife, Solomon Cochran and wife, Martha McKeever, Elizabeth Hoover, and John McLaughlin were charter members. The church was built under the pastor's care of Rev. W. W. Blake in 1858. It is a plain frame structure, having a gallery extending across the rear, in which the colored people sat during the services. The lumber in this building was all "hand-worked." The pulpit is "built in" across the platform.

Dr. George Norice was pastor here in 1845—his second year in the conference and lived in this community. He says of his parsonage there: "The first year we lived in a room in the second story of old mother Elizabeth Morrison's home. This house had been one of the preaching places of Bishop Ashurst and Jedeah Soole, who traveled here before he was made a Bishop. Mother Morrison in 1845, was a pious and intelligent widow lady 84 years of age. She with her husband Andrew Morrison, then living Rev. A. T. Morrison, son of her, and daughter and Moses Perkins were among the first reformers in that region. Notwithstanding the strong and near ties the Morrison families had to the M. E. Church, they left and became flowermen and original members of the Methodist Protestant Church in old Greenbrier county."

Methodism is as old in this valley as any place in America and seventy years ago the Methodist Protestant Church was the leading denomination here. But as makes one feel like we thought the ancient Jews felt after the return from Babylon, when he looks upon the shadows of a departed glory.

The Rev. George W. Barrett was a native of this community. His wife's brother, Jesse Barrett, was a member of old Droop church. George Brown Cochran, born in 1842 was named for Dr. George Brown who organized the Droop society. Dr. A. L. McGover, was named for Rev. Alfred Linn who was pastor here in 1843.

#### VIRGEN VALLEY—FAIRVIEW

The Virgen Valley society was formed about the close of the civil war. Services were held in a log school house until 1882 when the present church was built by Rev. G. W. Barrett and M. L. Smith. The church is located about one half mile from the school house, and about seven miles north of Marlinton, on the C. & O. R. The location is ideal for a country church, which may have suggested the new name, Fairview. The Freil and Johnson families were prominent members of the early organizations, and Hanson Sharp, Mrs. Hule Sharp and Benjamin Johnson are active members in the class now, which number about seventy.

#### NEEL CHAPEL—BRUSH APPOINTMENT

This church is located on one of those great "Levels," which is truly a most beautiful section of country. The lot upon which the church is built was donated by John Neel and the church building was named in his honor. It is a log house, celled and weatherboarded. A gallery

extends across the rear in which the colored people sat. There were many fine plantations in this level before the civil war, and a large number of slaves were owned by the planters. Among the early members here were William Lowdermilk and wife, Moses McClung and wife, Mike Cochran and wife, John Neel and wife, William Shary and wife, William Johnson and wife, John Shary and Martha Farasworth.

#### SPRING CREEK CHURCH

In 1914 Rev. D. T. Tharp held a meeting and organized a good society on Spring Creek, about 5 or 6 miles from Neel Chapel and built a good house of worship. Dr. J. J. Phillips dedicated this church in 1915 when he visited the circuit on an official capacity as president of the conference. The church was named Rock Camp. The name may have a geological significance. The creek issues from under the limestone mountains in the form of a big spring, hence its name.

Rev. C. D. Sharp, pastor of the Harroville church, was a member of the Rock Camp society, having been converted under the ministry of his uncle, Rev. D. T. Tharp. The present membership is about twenty.

#### SUE CHAPEL—LITTLE CREEK

The society on Little Creek was organized by Rev. George W. Barrett in 1855. Services were held in an old log dwelling that had been fired up and used for a school house. In 1872 a log church was built. (I have a fine picture of the log church). Moses Perry and wife, John F. Perry and wife, Rev. Thomas S. Collier and wife, were charter members.

Some years ago the Methodist Protestant and M. E. South held a frame church near See Mountain on Little Creek. But when the deed was made it was to the M. E. Church South, leaving the Methodist Protestants out, although they had done their part in building the house.

Mr. John F. Perry, a prosperous farmer and country merchant and one of the charter members of the Methodist Protestant Church decided that he was not ready for the M. P. Church to be absorbed in that community. So he proposed to the conference that he would give fifty acres of land on which there was a house suitable for summer home, and would pay \$1,000 towards the building of a church if the conference would furnish enough money to complete the building. The conference accepted the proposition and in 1924 the building was completed and dedicated by Rev. J. E. Burns and Rev. W. H. Hart. It is a very neat chapel and large enough to serve the needs of the society. The new church was named See Chapel, in honor of Mrs. John F. Perry.

The Rev. Thomas S. Collier was a charter member of the original society on Little Creek, now known as See Chapel. The permanency of this society is now assured and the outlook for the future is promising.

#### SLAB CAMP

This is a small society still worshipping in a school house. It is located on the Mountain top between Little Creek and Woodland church. The first services were held at the home of Alma McKeever, a cousin of Rev. A. L. McKeever. In 1882, Rev. Charles Taylor organized the society. Henry Coulter and wife, Mary Kellison, V.

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J. Gibber, Mary Coulter, Henry Williams and wife and Mary Perry were charter members. The class is still very small.

#### WOODLAND CHURCH

This church, like Neil Chapel, is located on one of the great plateaus in a fine agricultural community. This plateau is about a thousand feet above the river level, and the view from here is beautiful beyond any power to describe. I have stood on Plymouth Rock, in Massachusetts and looked out over the sea. I have stood at Fort Sill, in Oklahoma and looked at the distant mountains. I have stood under the Maple trees of Canada and looked out over the Great Lakes, and I have walked amid the Rose Grapes of Kentucky, but I have never looked upon a more inspiring scene than is here unfolded to your enraptured vision as you turn your gaze toward the setting sun.

Woodland church is situated about four miles from Rensick station on the C. & O. R. R., and on the road leading to Little Creek. The building is owned jointly by the Methodist Protestant and Presbyterian Churches. The M. P. society here was organized by Rev. W. T. Booley, who held a revival meeting in a shop at the farm of J. T. Gabbert who had been a member of the church at Neil Chapel, and when he moved into this new place he invited Brother Booley to preach at his home. Brother J. T. Gabbert and wife and four of his sons, George Lowdermilk and several others were charter members.

The Woodland church was built in 1917 under the patronage of Rev. James H. Lough, Dr. Hanson of the Presbyterian Church and Rev. J. H. Lough, pastor of the Rensick circuit. M. P. Church dedicated this parsonship building in 1917.

## MAY CHAPEL—ANTHONY'S CREEK

This is the only appointment of the Huesterville circuit where there is a church building. It is located on Anthony's Creek, just across the line in Greenbrier county. The society at May Chapel was organized in 1908 and in 1909 the church was built under the pastorate of Rev. B. M. Sonnen who was pastor of the newly formed Huesterville circuit. When the organization was formed it was part of the Little Creek circuit, of which Rev. Jacob A. Perry was pastor. William May, in whose home the May Chapel was named, was a member of the old log church on Little Creek, before the new society was formed on Anthony's Creek. Rev. M. L. Smith married a daughter of William May in 1882.

## BEAVER CREEK CLASS

This society was formed as early as 1863, and has worshiped in a school house ever since. There have been some great meetings held at this place, but the society has never been able to build a church. It may have been poverty or lack of enterprise, or possibly want of encouraging leadership.

Rev. A. L. McKeever preached his first sermon at this place. In telling me of this first attempt to preach, he said he had a most embarrassing experience. He did not wear either suspenders or a belt in those days, the tension of waistband being regulated by a strap sewed on the binder part of his pants. When he knelt down to pray at the beginning of the service, the strap on his trousers broke, and when he arose he was in danger of losing them. While the audience was singing he tried to borrow a pin from a brother. Pins were scarce, and none was se-

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cured. When he arose to speak it was necessary to keep one hand in a pocket by which to hold his pants from falling down. "Now," said he, "if you can imagine a timid young fellow trying to preach his first sermon and hold his pants on at the same time, you may know how I got along." This little incident is told here for the benefit of any young man who may have been embarrassed when he made his first attempt to preach.

## CUMMINGS CREEK CLASS

This society is located about two miles from Huesterville on the creek from which it takes its name. It has been organized for a good many years but still worships in a school house.

Browns Creek and Browns Mountain are two more school house appointments of the Huesterville circuit. Pleasant Hill class is located about two miles from the Fairview church and about the same distance from the Clawson church. A building was begun as a parsonage on enterprise by the Methodist Presbyterians and Danbar's but a storm blew it down before it was finished and no effort has been made to rebuild it. This small society still worships in a school house.

## CLAWSON CHURCH

This society at Clawson was organized by Rev. Howard Underwood in 1908, and the church, which is a neat frame building was built under the pastorate of Rev. D. T. Tharp in 1909. Rev. John A. Perry is a leader in this society. The Clawson church is located on the C. & O. R. R. about five miles north of Marlinton, near Thayer Creek station. The parsonage of the Marlinton circuit is located at the Clawson church.

## SEIBERT CHURCH

A society was formed here a few years ago, and a good church built by the Presbyterians and Methodist Presbyterians jointly. Rev W. T. Howett, a local minister organized the society. He and his family and David Doe and family were members here. There are still seventeen members at Seibert, although the Seventh Day Adventists have almost succeeded in disorganizing the clan since Brother Seibert moved to Marlinton.

Bethel church in the suburbs of Ronceverte has been sold but the lot which is now valuable is still held by the denomination although the society which was organized by Rev J. H. Lough in 1902, has been disbanded.

The Seabury church located near the mouth of Spring Creek, has been abandoned since the death of Mr. Seabury. Mrs. Dr. A. F. Hise, and Mrs. Dr. A. C. Blake were neighbors of Mr. Seabury, and attended that church.

New Hope Church, of the Rancefort circuit, located about three miles from Rancefort on the east side of the river, has been abandoned also. It was built in 1903 by Rev W. T. Bosley pastor of Ronceverte circuit.

## THE OLD QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

In order to give the students some idea of the prominence and prestige of the Methodist Presbyterians Church in the Greenbrier Valley during the early years of its history I here make record of some facts gleaned from the old quarterly conference minutes.

Dr. George Brown, president of the Pittsburgh conference, was chairman of the quarterly conference of the Pocahontas circuit, held October 21, 1843. The Rev Greenberry A. Compton was pastor in charge. Members

of the quarterly conference were Josiah Buckley, William Postens, James Moore, Jose Cochran, John Bradshaw, David Gibson, David Oshelton, J. G. McNeill, J. R. McCrackle, William Cochran, Samuel Gerr, William Johnston, Robert Rogers, James Bradshaw, John M. Hoaguet, Isaac Collins, Abraham Green, Abel Adkins. In reading the "Historical Sketches of Pocahontas County," by William T. Price, I learned that these men were among the most prominent and influential citizens of the county at that time.

Some of the early pastors who preached in this valley were Rev. Richard Walker, Henry Lucas, Greenberry Compton, George Nisbet, Daniel R. Feltwell, William B. Babin, John Bolton, Deane B. Decker, J. B. McOwen, D. C. Wise, Oliver Lowther, G. W. Barrett, Dr. Peter T. Lathley, president of the Pittsburgh conference, presided at a quarterly conference in 1851, at which plans were made to build the church at Deep Mountain. The delegate was instructed to secure either W. B. Babin, John Bolton, or George G. Wierfall as pastor for the ensuing year. The conference records show that the salary paid averaged with the best charges of the district.

After examining all of the old records available and making a personal survey of all the old centers of denominational glory and prestige in the past, I asked many of the older people for an opinion as to the state of our loss of prestige and leadership, as a denomination in this Valley. One very intelligent, though conservative man replied: "A charge left for years without a pastor, and then supplied with an indifferent quality is bound to fail." One zealous woman replied: "Other denominations have educated preachers in their pulpits and we have Sand Diggers from Webster county." The most gazer-

ally expressed opinion was that, no pastoral leadership during the civil war, and for some years after, then only indifferent supply preachers, who were so far below the standard set by the earlier ministers, that the people lost their interest and hope for better things.

#### WHAT IS THE REMEDY

Knowing the history, geography, local conditions and sentiment of the people as I think I do, I am going to suggest a possible procedure that may, in the course of time, bring back to the Methodist Protestant Church some of its former prestige, and make it a power for good in this valley.

First: Organize this entire valley as a single unit, and put it under the supervision of one of the strongest leaders and best organizers among the ministers of the conference. Then supply as many competent helpers as may be necessary to properly provide services for all of the appointments.

Second: Require the General Superintendent to live in Marlinton where he will come in contact with Methodist Preachers who now live there and others who may come, with a view to forming an organization in Marlinton. This man to be supported by the Church Extension Board.

Third: Station one of the best helpers as Representative where he can make a survey of conditions and possibly form an organization. From these two centers the influence of these men will radiate, and the entire membership of the church in this valley will feel the impulse.

Fourth: Team work in evangelism by the superintendent and his helpers, and such assistance as other pastors of the conference may be able to give.

Fifth: Sow the whole territory knee deep with Methodist Protestant literature—a church paper in every family.

But some one may say, this is a petty legs program. Very well, those are times of large things, and the Methodist Protestant Church in West Virginia is able to do large things when once aroused to action. If we could save Parkersburg, nearest Morgantown, establish ourselves in Weston and Buckhannon, plant a good church in Clarksburg, we can redeem ourselves in the great Greenbrier valley. And I know of no more promising field for Church Extension work than in this valley.

I am older than the state of West Virginia. I know its history and geography. I have traveled over its territory. I know its towns and cities. I know the character and quality of its citizens, and I do not hesitate to represent my sisters and brothers in convention that, the greatest and best opportunity now open to the Methodist Protestant Church in West Virginia, is in the Greenbrier Valley. And there is no extra charge for this opinion.

THE  
METHODIST PROTESTANT  
CHURCH

IN  
WEST VIRGINIA

BY  
REV. I. A. BARNES, Ph. B., D. D.

DEDICATION  
TO

*Methodist Protestants of to-day, and those of to-morrow,  
who may be interested in knowing whence we came, and  
why our coming and the roads by which we came, this  
book is affectionately dedicated,*

BY THE AUTHOR.

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